

Women Winning the Right to Vote



Read the text.

For the first 30 years after the United States won its independence, only white male landowners could vote. Then, during the 1820s and 1830s, all white men started to earn the right to vote. By the 1840s, women began to seek that right for themselves. Some women already had been fighting against slavery. They were becoming more and more involved with political causes, so they believed they should be considered full citizens. And that meant being able to vote.

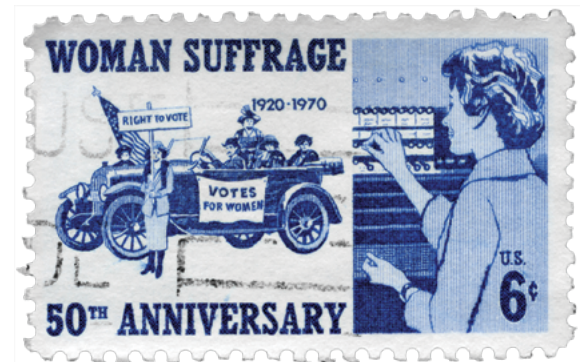
In 1848, an anti-slavery group of women and a few men held a meeting in Seneca Falls, New York. They talked about promoting voting (known as *suffrage*) and other women's rights. For the next 10 years, their movement grew. Unfortunately, it came to a halt when the Civil War began.

In 1870, black men gained the right to vote. Women once again returned to fighting for their own suffrage. They marched through city streets. They protested in front of the White House. Many women were arrested. Some served time in jail.

In 1914, their efforts came to a halt with the start of World War I. Women contributed their money and time to the war effort. These actions slowly helped them gain support for their cause. Finally, on August 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the Constitution was passed. After nearly 100 years, women won the right to vote.

Tip

When you **summarize** a text, include only the **key ideas**. Do not include details from the text or your own opinions.



Decide if each sentence should or should not be included in a summary of the text.

- 1 The word *suffrage* means being able to vote.
- 2 Black men won the right to vote 50 years before women.
- 3 Groups of women had opposed slavery.
- 4 The 19th Amendment assured women's right to vote.
- 5 Many women and some men met in Seneca Falls, New York.
- 6 World War I began in 1914.
- 7 A famous meeting took place in 1848 to discuss the general issue of women's rights.
- 8 The Civil War and World War I delayed women's voting rights efforts.
- 9 It's surprising that it took American women nearly 100 years to gain the right to vote.
- 10 It wasn't right that for 30 years only white male landowners could vote.
- 11 American women deserved the right to vote.
- 12 Women fought for the right to vote in different ways.

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Objective: Identify statements that belong in a summary of a text.

